

Case 3316

Hindia Duncan, 1879 (Porifera): proposed conservation

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Abstract. The purpose of this application, under Article 23.9.3 of the Code, is to conserve the name *Hindia* Duncan, 1879 for a fossil demosponge genus ranging from the Ordovician to the Devonian. The name is threatened by two senior synonyms, the virtually unused name *Sphaerolites* Hinde, 1875 and *Microspongia* Miller & Dyer, 1878, the name of a doubtfully recognisable taxon. The suppression of the two senior synonyms is proposed.

Keywords. Nomenclature; taxonomy; Porifera; HINDIIDAE; *Hindia*; *Sphaerolites*; *Microspongia*; fossil sponges; Ordovician; Silurian; Devonian.

1. The nominal genus *Microspongia* was established by Miller & Dyer (1878, p. 37) based on one new species, *Microspongia gregaria* (p. 37, pl. 2, fig. 2), from the upper part of the Cincinnati Group of Upper Ordovician age near Cincinnati, Ohio. They described the spicules as 'very minute and needle-shaped'.

2. The name of the demosponge genus *Hindia* was established by Duncan (1879, p. 91), with type species by monotypy *Hindia sphaeroidalis* Duncan, 1879 (p. 91, pl. 9, figs. 1–6). Duncan described the spicules as unattached, tripod-stemmed in shape, with swollen extremities and papillose limbs. He based his genus on fossils collected by Hinde from rocks of 'Lower Helderberg [Devonian] or Upper Silurian' age near Dalhousie, New Brunswick. These same specimens had earlier been described as the new genus and species *Sphaerolites nicholsoni* by Hinde (1875, p. 8), when they were thought to be corals. Rauff (1886, pp. 166–172) documented the spicular characters of the skeleton of *Hindia* and convincingly demonstrated their sponge nature. To the best of my knowledge the name *Sphaerolites* has not been used as a valid name for at least 40 years, probably much longer.

3. Ulrich (1890, pp. 228–229) noted that the types of *Microspongia gregaria* were lost and that the original definition of *Microspongia* was both inadequate to distinguish it from other genera with similar external forms and incorrect about the form of its spicules. He concluded that *Microspongia* was unrecognizable but that *Hindia* and *Microspongia* were probably identical. According to Finks (1960, p. 97), Ulrich also noted that he had seen topotype material of *Microspongia*, as identified by Miller, that was identical with *Hindia*. Finks also observed that R.S. Bassler had informed B.F. Howell that he had seen the types of *Microspongia*, before they were lost, and that they were identical to *Hindia*. Finks (1960, p. 97) concluded that, as *Hindia* had been more widely used than *Microspongia* and since the types of *Microspongia* were lost and had never been adequately described, he was retaining the name *Hindia* in his paper. In contrast, Howell (1940, p. 45) had concluded that

Microspongia Miller & Dyer, 1878 was the senior synonym of *Hindia* Duncan, 1879, and changed the name of the family from HINDIIDAE Rauff, 1894 (p. 327) to MICROSPONGIIDAE Howell, 1940 (p. 45).

4. In the *Treatise on Invertebrate Paleontology*, de Laubenfels (1955, p. E60) included *Hindia* as a junior synonym of *Microspongia* Miller & Dyer, 1878. He included *Microspongia* within the family ASTYLOSPONGIIDAE. Rauff, 1893 — a taxonomic decision firmly rejected by the current generation of sponge taxonomists because of significant differences in spicule structure between ASTYLOSPONGIIDAE and HINDIIDAE. As far as I am aware, the name *Microspongia* has not been used as valid since de Laubenfels (1955), except by Zhuravleva (1962, p. 56 in Russian; 1971, p. 61 in the English translation).

5. The nominal genus *Hindia* has been used for these fossil sponges extensively in North America (e.g. Hinde, 1884, p. 57; Rauff, 1894, p. 327; Foerste, 1903, p. 714; Schuchert & Twenhofel, 1910, p. 702; Bassler, 1932, pp. 76, 85; Bayer, 1967, p. 420; Rigby & Chatterton, 1989, pp. 34–35; 1999, pp. 17–18), in Europe (e.g. Roemer, 1885, p. 63; Hinde, 1887, p. 67; 1888, p. 116; Rauff, 1894, p. 338), and in Australia (Rigby & Webby, 1988, pp. 61–63), to cite only a few references, and stratigraphically from the Ordovician to the Devonian.

6. In order to conserve the current general usage of *Hindia* Duncan, 1879 in the forthcoming revision of the Porifera volume of the *Treatise on Invertebrate Paleontology*, I propose the suppression of the two senior synonyms *Sphaerolites* Hinde, 1875 and *Microspongia* Miller & Dyer, 1878.

7. The International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature is accordingly asked:

(1) to use its plenary power to suppress the following generic names for the purposes of the Principle of Priority but not for those of the Principle of Homonymy:

(a) *Microspongia* Miller & Dyer, 1878;

(b) *Sphaerolites* Hinde, 1875;

(2) to place on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology the name *Hindia* Duncan, 1879 (gender: feminine), type species by monotypy *Hindia sphaeroidalis* Duncan, 1879;

(3) to place on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology the name *sphaeroidalis* Duncan, 1879, as published in the binomen *Hindia sphaeroidalis* (specific name of the type species of *Hindia* Duncan, 1879);

(4) to place on the Official List of Family-Group Names in Zoology the name HINDIIDAE Rauff, 1894, type genus *Hindia* Duncan, 1879;

(5) to place on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology the following names:

(a) *Microspongia* Miller & Dyer, 1878 (as suppressed in (1)(a) above);

(b) *Sphaerolites* Hinde, 1875 (as suppressed in (1)(b) above);

(6) to place on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Family-Group Names in Zoology the name MICROSPONGIIDAE Howell, 1940 (invalid because the name of the type genus has been suppressed in (1)(a) above).

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Case 3264

STAPHYLINIDAE Latreille, 1804 (Insecta, Coleoptera): proposed conservation of ten specific names

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Abstract. The purpose of this application, in relation to Articles 23.9.3 and 23.9.5 of the Code, is the conservation of ten specific names (six junior primary homonyms, three junior secondary homonyms, and one junior synonym) that have been in use for many years for rove beetles (family STAPHYLINIDAE). None of the species denoted by the homonyms has been considered congeneric after 1899. Conservation would confer the greatest stability in the naming of these staphylinid taxa.

Keywords. Nomenclature; taxonomy; Coleoptera; STAPHYLINIDAE; rove beetles.

1. This application seeks to conserve six junior primary homonyms, three junior secondary homonyms, and one junior synonym that are used for rove beetles (family STAPHYLINIDAE). In four cases (see Table 1, nos. 6–9), both the senior and junior primary homonyms are in current use and the species they represent have not been considered congeneric after 1899. These cases are submitted to the Commission under the provisions of Article 23.9.5.

2. In two cases (see Table 1, nos. 4–5), the primary homonyms represent species that have not been considered congeneric after 1899 and the senior names have been junior synonyms since before 1899. However, the junior names have not been used a sufficient number of times in the last 50 years to satisfy the requirements of Article 23.9.1.2. These cases are presented to the Commission for action under Article 23.9.3.

3. In two cases of secondary homonymy (see Table 1, nos. 2–3) the senior names have been junior synonyms since before 1899, but the junior names do not fulfil the usage requirements of Article 23.9.1.2. These cases are submitted under Article 23.9.3. In the third case of secondary homonymy (see Table 1, no. 1), the senior name has never been cited as a junior synonym, but has remained unused since 1839, whereas the junior name has been in constant although infrequent use. The case for conserving this name is submitted under Article 23.9.3.

4. In the case of the synonymy (see Table 2), the junior name *Paederus limnophilus* Erichson, 1840 (p. 653) has been cited a sufficient number of times (by 21 authors in 27 articles in the last 50 years) to allow its ‘automatic’ protection under Article 23.9.1.2. However, Frank (1988) used the older name for this species, *Paederus limophilus* Heer, 1839 (p. 235), which had otherwise not been used since Kraatz (1857), thereby preventing ‘automatic’ protection of *P. limnophilus* under Article 23.9.1.

5. The homonyms and synonyms (with associated details) are presented in Table 1 and Table 2 respectively. The usage of these names in the last 50 years is summarized

in the tables. Full details of usage are held by the Commission Secretariat and are available on request in electronic or hard copy.

6. The International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature is accordingly asked:

- (1) to use its plenary power to rule that:
 - (a) the specific names in column 2 of Table 1, as originally published in binomina with the generic names in column 5 of Table 1, are not invalid by reason of their being junior primary homonyms, in nos. 4–9 of Table 1, or junior secondary homonyms, in nos. 1–3 of Table 1, of the specific names in column 4 of Table 1;
 - (b) the specific name *limnophilus* Erichson, 1840 (Table 2, column 1), as originally published in a binomen with *Paederus* (Table 2, column 1), is to be given precedence over the specific name *limophilus* Heer, 1839 (Table 2, column 3), as originally published in a binomen with *Paederus* (Table 2, column 3), whenever the two are considered to be synonyms;
- (2) to place on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology the following names:
 - (a) the specific names in column 4 of Table 1, as originally published in the binomina with generic names in column 5 of Table 1;
 - (b) the specific names in column 2 of Table 1, as originally published in binomina with generic names in column 5 of Table 1, ruled in (1a) above to be not invalid by reason of being junior homonyms of the names in column 4 of Table 1;
 - (c) the specific name *limnophilus* Erichson, 1840 (Table 2, column 1), as originally published in a binomen with *Paederus* (Table 2, column 1), with the endorsement, as ruled in (1)(b) above, that it is to be given precedence over *limnophilus* Heer, 1839 (Table 2, column 3), as originally published in a binomen with *Paederus* (Table 2, column 3), whenever they are considered to be synonyms;
 - (d) the specific name *limnophilus* Heer, 1839 (Table 2, column 3), as originally published in a binomen with *Paederus* (Table 2, column 3), with the endorsement, as ruled in (1)(b) above, that it not be given priority over *limnophilus* Erichson, 1840 (Table 2, column 1), as originally published in a binomen with *Paederus* (Table 1, column 1), whenever they are considered to be synonyms.

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Table 1. 9 specific names (junior homonyms) proposed for conservation, with their senior homonyms and other information
KEY:
 Names are arranged in alphabetical order and the numbers applied to them have relevance only within the table.
 s.h. – senior homonym; j.h. – junior homonym; j.s. – junior synonym; j.p.h. – junior primary homonym; j.s.h. – junior secondary homonym.

No. (column 1)	Junior homonyms proposed for conservation (column 2)	Geographic distribution of species referred to by the junior homonym (column 3)	Senior homonym (column 4)	Genus in which originally described (column 5)	Notes (column 6)	Code (column 7)
1	<i>Astenus dimidiatus</i> (Wollaston, 1864, p. 591)	Canary Islands	<i>Astenus dimidiatus</i> Stephens, 1833, p. 277	s.h. described in <i>Astenus</i> j.h. originally described in <i>Sumius</i> Stephens, 1829	j.s.h. cited by 6 authors in 7 articles in last 50 years s.h. unused after 1839 (Stephens, 1839, p. 408); specimens of type series not found and name declared nomen dubium (Lott & Herman, in press) j.s.h. cited by 2 authors in 3 articles in last 50 years	Article 23.9.3
2	<i>Astenus filum</i> (Aubé, 1850, p. 317)	North Africa	<i>Astenus filum</i> (Waltl, 1838, column 267)	s.h. originally described in <i>Paederus</i> Fabricius, 1775 j.h. originally described in <i>Sumius</i> Stephens, 1829	s.h. = j.s. of either <i>Astenus procerus</i> (Gravenhorst, 1806) or <i>Astenus filiformis</i> (Latreille, 1806), since 1840 (Erichson, 1840, p. 932)	Article 23.9.3
3	<i>Astenus rutilipennis</i> Reitter, 1909, p. 151	Caucasus, Czech Republic, Slovakia	<i>Astenus rutilipennis</i> (Chevrolat, 1860, p. 410)	s.h. described in <i>Sumius</i> Stephens, 1829 j.h. described in <i>Astenus</i>	j.h. cited by 7 authors in 8 articles in last 50 years s.h. = j.s. of <i>Astenus filum</i> (Aubé, 1850) since 1865 (Fauvel, 1865, p. 17) Examples 2 and 3 are interrelated in that if <i>Astenus filum</i> (Aubé) is replaced by its next oldest synonym, <i>A. rutilipennis</i> (Chevrolat), and <i>A. rutilipennis</i> Reitter is replaced then the name <i>A. rutilipennis</i> will still be used but for a different species, in a different subgenus, from a different region	Article 23.9

4	<i>Astenes unicolor</i> (Mulsant & Rey, 1878, p. 276)	France, Italy	a. <i>Pseudomedeon unicolor</i> (Stephens, 1839, p. 407) b. <i>Pseudomedeon unicolor</i> (Curtis, 1840, p. 277)	<i>Sinitus</i> Stephens, 1829	j.-h. cited by 2 authors in 4 articles in last 50 years; never congeneric with a or b a and b moved from <i>Sinitus</i> in 1858 (Waterhouse, 1858, p. 27); a and b = j.s. of <i>Pseudomedeon obsoletus</i> (Nordmann, 1837) and unused after 1858 (Waterhouse, 1858, p. 27)	Article 23.9.3
5	<i>Lathrobium fufivipes</i> Adachi, 1955, p. 30	Japan	<i>Piniophilus fufivipes</i> (Blanchard, 1842, p. 85)	<i>Lathrobium</i> Gravenhorst, 1802	j.-h. cited by 3 authors in 4 articles in last 50 years s.h. = j.s.h. of <i>Lathrophiopus fufivipes</i> (Erichson, 1840); j.s. of <i>Piniophilus blanchardi</i> Fauvel, 1887; has been in <i>Lathrophiopus</i> Sharp, 1886, or <i>Piniophilus</i> Gravenhorst, 1802, since 1887 (Fauvel, 1887, p. 233)	Article 23.9.3
6	<i>Lathrobium pallipes</i> Sharp, 1889, p. 257	China, Japan, Korea	<i>Honnacotarsus pallipes</i> (Gravenhorst, 1802, p. 179)	<i>Lathrobium</i> Gravenhorst, 1802	s.h. moved from <i>Lathrobium</i> in 1837 (Nordmann, 1837, p. 149)	Article 23.9.5
7	<i>Lobrathium badium</i> (Cameron, 1924, p. 193)	India	<i>Honnacotarsus badius</i> (Gravenhorst, 1802, p. 53)	<i>Lathrobium</i> Gravenhorst, 1802	s.h. and j.-h. valid; never congeneric; s.h. moved from <i>Lathrobium</i> in 1840 (Erichson, 1840, p. 562)	Article 23.9.5
8	<i>Minioptiophilus tenuis</i> (Fagel, 1963, p. 216)	Democratic Republic of the Congo	<i>Lathrophiopus tenuis</i> (Sharp, 1876, p. 323)	<i>Piniophilus</i> Gravenhorst, 1802	s.h. and j.-h. valid; never congeneric; s.h. moved from <i>Piniophilus</i> in 1886 (Sharp, 1886, p. 628)	Article 23.9.5
9	<i>Platydomene bicolor</i> (Erichson, 1840, p. 593)	Europe, North Africa	a. <i>Honnacotarsus bicolor</i> (Gravenhorst, 1802, p. 179) b. <i>Lathrobium bicolor</i> Heer, 1839, p. 240	<i>Lathrobium</i> Gravenhorst, 1802	a. valid name; moved from <i>Lathrobium</i> in 1840 (Erichson, 1840, p. 563) b. Unused since at least 1868 (Gemminger & Harold, 1868, p. 609); j.p.h. of a	a. Article 23.9.5 b. Articles 23.9.1 and 23.9.2

Table 2. Specific name (junior synonym) proposed for conservation, with other information

KEY:

s.s. – senior synonym; j.s. – junior synonym.

Synonym proposed for conservation (column 1)	Geographic distribution of species referred to by the synonyms (column 2)	Synonym proposed not to be given priority (column 3)	Notes (column 4)	Code (column 5)
<i>Paederus linnophilus</i> Erichson, 1840, p. 653	Europe	<i>Paederus linnophilus</i> Heer, 1839, p. 235	j.s. cited as valid by 21 authors in 27 articles in last 50 years s.s. cited as invalid synonym of <i>P. linnophilus</i> from 1857 (Kraatz, 1857, p. 729) until resurrected in 1988 (Frank, 1988, p. 118; see also Willers, 2001, p. 189, and Assing & Schülke, 2001, p. 131) thereby preventing automatic protection of j.s. under Article 23.9.1.1	Article 23.9.3